

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 78 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph.

**[0078]** If the determination of step 730 is ~~[[positive]]~~ negative (the information generated in step 720 has not been durably stored before either a data block associated with the processed transaction is durably stored or the data block is transferred to another site), then processing proceeds to step 740. In step 740, the information generated in step 720 is durably stored before either the data block is durably stored or the data block is transferred to another site of the plurality of sites.

Please replace paragraph 80 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph.

**[0080]** If the determination of step 730 is ~~[[negative]]~~ positive (the information generated in step 720 has ~~[[not]]~~ been durably stored before either a data block associated with the processed transaction is durably stored or the data block is transferred to another site), then processing proceeds to step 750. In step 750, the data block associated with the processed transaction is durably stored or transferred.